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RECORD OF POLITICAL EVENTS.

[From May 9 to November 10, 1897.]

I. THE UNITED STATES.

FOREIGN RELATIONS. — The activity of the government in this field has been manifested most conspicuously in connection with Cuba, Hawaii and the Bering Sea seal fisheries. **The situation in Cuba** was made the subject of careful consideration by President McKinley's administration during May and June, as preliminary to the appointment of a minister to Spain. A special commissioner, Colonel W. J. Calhoun, was despatched to Cuba in May to investigate and report upon various subjects of controversy between the United States and Spain. Pending his report, the President, on the basis of consular reports as to suffering among American citizens in Cuba, recommended to Congress, in a message of May 17, that an appropriation be made for their relief. An act was passed three days later devoting \$50,000 to this purpose, of which only a fifth had been expended by September. On May 20 the Senate passed, by 41 to 14, a resolution declaring that war existed between Spain and the Cubans, and recognizing the latter as belligerents. It was well known that President McKinley disliked the tendency of Congress to encroach upon what he, like his predecessor, regarded as a function of the executive, and the resolution, accordingly, was not considered by the House. At the beginning of June Colonel Calhoun returned from Cuba and made his report to the President, who based upon it demands for indemnity from Spain for the ill-treatment of certain American citizens. On the 16th the appointment was announced of Mr. Stewart L. Woodford, of New York, as minister to Spain. Mr. Woodford presented his credentials on September 13. His instructions, which were communicated to the Spanish government, were not made public, but were understood to embody serious representations as to the necessity of terminating the existing situation in Cuba. Newspaper reports that he had presented an ultimatum to Spain gave rise to manifestations of popular feeling against the United States in many parts of the country; but the truth of the reports was officially denied. The change of ministry and of policy in Spain (*infra*, p. 753) delayed the reply to Mr. Woodford's instructions, and it was not transmitted to Washington till October 27. No authentic information as to its purport was made public; but the sailing of a filibustering expedition from New York, just before, gave rise to reports that Spain laid much stress on the failure of the United States to fulfill her obligations as a neutral. — On June 16 the President formally resumed the policy of the last preceding Republican administra-

tion by sending to the Senate a treaty for **the annexation of Hawaii**. The negotiation of such a treaty had been expected, and commissioners for the purpose had been sent to the United States before the inauguration of Mr. McKinley; but the immediate impulse to the conclusion of the agreement seems to have been given by exigencies in the formulation of the sugar schedule of the new tariff (*infra*, p. 738). In connection with the annexation the treaty provided that a special system of laws dealing with public lands should be enacted by Congress for application to Hawaii; that, until otherwise provided by Congress, the administration of the islands should be carried on by the President of the United States, in such manner and by such persons as he should direct; that existing treaties between Hawaii and other nations should cease forthwith, but that municipal legislation and commercial relations between Hawaii and the United States should remain unchanged; that the public debt of Hawaii, up to \$4,000,000, should be assumed by the United States; and that further immigration of Chinese into Hawaii, as well as into the United States from Hawaii, should be subject to the restrictions of the laws of the United States. The announcement of the treaty was followed by a protest from Japan, chiefly on the ground that rights of Japanese, both civil and political, would be summarily destroyed by the termination of Hawaiian treaty relations. China objected to the clauses touching Chinese immigration; and the deposed Queen Liliuokalani filed a protest against what she designated as the spoliation of the natives and the practical confiscation of crown lands. The treaty was not brought up for action in the Senate at Washington during the extra session, but in September the Hawaiian Senate ratified it unanimously. — In respect to **the seal fisheries** the efforts of the administration have resulted in the arrangement of two different conferences of interested powers on the method of preserving the herds. Great Britain, in April, declined to accede to the proposals of the United States for a suspension of sealing for one season and for a conference looking to the revision of the Paris tribunal's regulations for pelagic sealing. Under date of May 10, Secretary Sherman sent a dispatch in which the attitude of Great Britain in respect to the matter was very sharply censured, and she was rather bluntly charged with bad faith, in not performing her proper share in the work of patrolling the seas and enforcing the prescribed regulations. Mr. Sherman's note concluded with another request for a conference. Lord Salisbury's reply, dated July 28, agreed to a meeting of experts named by Great Britain, Canada and the United States, for the purpose of reaching precise conclusions as to the present size and condition of the Pribyloff herd. The American administration had been intent on a conference including representatives of Japan and Russia, and understood that Lord Salisbury had agreed to this. Accordingly, those two governments were invited to send delegates to Washington. But at the beginning of October Lord Salisbury declared that Great Britain adhered to her original idea, and would not attend if Japan and Russia were represented.

Accordingly, the plans were changed so as to provide for two separate conferences, — one of representatives of the United States, Japan and Russia, the other of representatives of the United States, Canada and Great Britain. The former conference resulted, after a short session, in a treaty between the powers concerned, which was signed November 6. The second conference met November 10. — **Negotiations on international bimetallicism** were carried on throughout the summer at the chief European capitals by the commission named by the President (last RECORD, p. 358). The result of the negotiations with Great Britain and France were made public in October. France agreed to open her mints to the free coinage of silver at the ratio of $15\frac{1}{2} : 1$ on condition that Great Britain would coöperate in accordance with the proposals of the United States. These proposals included, with others, the opening of the Indian mints to free coinage, the substitution of silver for gold by the Bank of England to the extent of one-fifth of the note-redemption reserve, and the annual purchase by Great Britain of £10,000,000 in silver. In response to the British government's inquiry the Bank of England agreed to the suggested use of silver in its reserve, on condition that France open her mint to free coinage, and "that the prices at which silver is procurable and salable are satisfactory." The Indian government, to whom was referred the opening of the Indian mints, unanimously opposed such a step, and this view was approved September 16 by the British cabinet. With this action the negotiations, so far as made public, ended.

INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION. — Up to the final passage of the new tariff bill the condition of the **finances** manifested the same reassuring features that were chronicled in the last RECORD. Anticipatory importations swelled the revenue to such an extent that the net deficit at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, was only \$18,623,108. With the passage of the Dingley Law the reaction at once appeared, and a huge excess of expenditure developed, which by November 1 had reached a total for the four months of over \$27,000,000. — In respect to the **currency** the administration has been exceptionally fortunate. The gold reserve has remained throughout the period at about \$150,000,000. Trade conditions have all been favorable to the maintenance and even to the increase of the treasury's store of gold. Widespread crop failures abroad have been accompanied by good crops at home; a very marked revival of business has developed since early summer; and the product of the new Klondike gold fields has found its way in considerable measure to the treasury vaults. In the autumn months the administration was in a position not only not to encourage, but even absolutely to reject, the offers of gold for deposit. Simultaneously with these conditions a great fall in the market price of silver contributed to weaken the position of the free-silver party. Despite this, however, the commission appointed by President McKinley gave evidence of activity in different European centres in the interest of international bimetallicism. And while this official body was working abroad

for the rehabilitation of silver another commission, unofficial and non-political in character, but representative of a convention of financiers and business men held last January at Indianapolis, was considering projects for the reformation of our currency without reference to international action. This commission, headed by ex-Senator Edmunds, was appointed as the result of the failure of Congress to act upon the President's recommendation of an official commission (*infra*, p. 739), and was understood to have been constituted with some reference to the desire of the administration. It is expected to report during the winter. Meanwhile, on October 29, Secretary Gage submitted to the cabinet and made public an elaborate plan of currency reform, which proposed (1) the establishment of a separate department in the treasury, to be known as the Issue and Redemption Division; (2) the issue of refunding bonds, bearing $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent interest and payable in gold; and (3) the amendment of the National Bank Act so as to promote a great increase of note circulation. — President McKinley's attitude in reference to **civil-service reform** was made perfectly clear by an order of July 28, which, despite the confident anticipations of influential Republican adversaries of the reform, confirmed and promoted the policy of the preceding administration. With some slight modifications of the existing rules as to classification, the President ordered that no removal should be made from any position subject to competitive examination except for just cause and upon written charges, and after full opportunity for defense should have been given to the accused. Before this, the power and method of removal had not been affected to any great extent by the rules of the service, and the new rule was generally regarded as an effective supplement to those governing appointments. During September several cases of violation of this rule were brought before the courts on applications of the removed persons for judicial relief. In general, the courts followed the opinion rendered by Judge Cox at Washington September 14. In that case a postal officer applied for an injunction to restrain the post-master-general from removing him except in accordance with the new rule. The court refused the writ, holding (1) that a court of equity had no jurisdiction in matters of removal from office; (2) that the rule in question was not authorized by the civil-service act of 1883; (3) that the rule was within the authority of the President to prescribe, and was enforceable by the President through his administrative control over his cabinet, but not through the courts. A diametrically opposite opinion was rendered November 9 by the federal district court in West Virginia, and the matter has been taken to the higher courts. — Under authority embodied in the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill, the President appointed, at the beginning of July, a new Nicaragua Canal Commission, consisting of Admiral J. G. Walker and two engineers, from military and civil life respectively. The commission is to make a detailed study and report upon the practicability and cost of a canal. In May the Nicaraguan government retracted the statement involved in the note of Minister Rodriguez during the preceding

winter (see last RECORD, p. 359), to the effect that the charter of the existing canal corporation had been forfeited. Nicaragua now declared that the communication had been made to Secretary Olney under a misunderstanding. — A treaty concluded in September by the Dawes Commission with the Creek Nation, for the abandonment of their independent government and the allotment of their lands in severalty, was in the following month rejected by the legislature of the Indians. On the other hand, the agreement reached last April with the Choctaws and Chickasaws was ratified by both tribes at the beginning of November. — The foreclosure sale of the Union Pacific Railway (see last RECORD, p. 356) was effected November 1. Under pressure of a newspaper agitation against the terms first agreed upon and of steps by the government looking to postponement of the sale, the reorganization committee of the company consented in October to raise its bid so as to assure to the government \$58,028,532.76, the full amount of its claim for principal and interest. The sale was carried out under this arrangement, and the financial connection of the government with the road terminated.

CONGRESS. — Substantially the only work of the session was the completion of the **new tariff law**, which at the beginning of the period under review had been adopted by the House and had just been reported to the Senate by the committee on finance. The bill was debated in the Senate from May 25 to July 7, when it passed, with amendments, by 38 to 28 — one Democrat and two silver Republicans voting with the majority, but most of the Populists and silverites refusing to vote. A conference committee then considered the measure till July 17. A report agreed to on that day was adopted by the House on the 19th, — 189 to 115, — and by the Senate on the 24th, — 40 to 30, — becoming law on the latter date by the President's signature. The general character of the bill as passed did not differ from that of the original draft, as described in the last RECORD. Modifications made by the Senate and in conference were confined for the most part to small adjustments of rates, significant only to the special industries concerned. Among the more important changes were the following: the transfer of hides from the free to the dutiable list; a heavy increase of rates on linens; a readjustment of the sugar schedule so as apparently to give refiners more protection than in the House bill, though much less than that proposed by the Senate; and the imposition of an equivalent countervailing duty on articles on which an export bounty or grant has been paid by the country of origin. Owing to doubts in the Senate as to the revenue-raising capacity of the House bill, various provisions looking to additional income were proposed at different stages of the discussion, among them a duty on tea, an increase of the tax on beer, and a stamp tax on transactions in stocks and bonds. None of these propositions, however, survived the conference committee. The retroactive provision which had been inserted in the House bill to prevent the loss of revenue through anticipatory importation was dropped, and the new duties went into effect

from the date of the approval of the law by the President. Shortly after the passage of the act an important question was raised as to the effect of a clause imposing a discriminating duty of ten per cent additional on goods imported "in vessels not of the United States," save where otherwise provided by treaty. This clause had been a feature of all our tariff laws since 1824, but had been modified, in the latest act, so as to apply the additional duty to goods "which, being the production or manufacture of any foreign country not contiguous to the United States, shall come into the United States from such contiguous country." It was soon disclosed that this amendment, which had attracted no attention during the discussion of the act in Congress, had been made at the instance of persons who had long been trying, but in vain, to curtail the privileges through which the Canadian Pacific Railway was enabled to compete with the trunk lines of the United States in transcontinental traffic. It was held that, under the new law, Asiatic goods landed in British Columbia for transportation by the Canadian Pacific in bonded cars to Eastern cities of the United States must pay the discriminating duty. The Treasury Department promptly applied to the attorney-general for an interpretation of the new clause, and on September 21 Attorney-General McKenna gave an opinion which held (1) that the new clause, like the old, regarded only transportation by sea, and (2) that in this second aspect no very important change had been effected in the law.—Of other legislation by Congress there was very little. Upon the passage of the tariff bill, the President, on the same day, sent to Congress a message urgently recommending the immediate creation of a non-partisan commission to report upon such changes in the currency system as might be necessary and expedient. The House at once passed a resolution embodying the desired provisions; in the Senate there was no hope of action, and the matter was referred to the regular committee. During the consideration of the tariff by the Senate the House continued its suspended animation by adjournment at three-day intervals, despite the discontent of both Democrats and Republicans who wished for action on various measures. The embargo was raised only for the passage of the delayed appropriation bills and one or two other routine measures. In the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill an animated controversy over President Cleveland's orders establishing forest reservations (last RECORD, p. 356) was settled by a provision suspending the orders till March 1, 1898, and authorizing President McKinley to revoke or modify them at his discretion. Upon the final passage of the tariff bill, Speaker Reed made the announcement of House committees, which, with the exception of ways and means, accounts and mileage, had been held in abeyance. The chairmen of the most important were as follows: foreign affairs, Hitt, of Illinois; appropriations, Cannon, of Illinois; judiciary, Henderson, of Iowa; banking and currency, Walker, of Massachusetts; coinage, Stone, of Pennsylvania; commerce, Hepburn, of Iowa. The session ended on July 24, the day the tariff bill was passed.

THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY. — In the case of *The Interstate Commerce Commission vs. Railway Companies*, the supreme court held, May 24, that Congress did not bestow upon the commission the "power of prescribing rates, either minimum or maximum or absolute," and therefore did not intend to empower the commission to determine in reference to the past what rate was reasonable and just, and then call upon the courts to enforce such rate in the future by peremptory order. In another case involving the Interstate Commerce Commission the court decided, November 8, that under the long-and-short-haul clause the railroads could in first instance, without appealing to the commission, make allowance in their rate schedules for differences of circumstances between two routes due to the competition of other railways and of water routes. In *National Bank vs. Nebeker* the court held that the clause of the National Banking Act taxing the circulation of such banks was not a bill for raising revenue in the sense that it must, in order to be constitutional, originate in the House of Representatives. During May and June the leading officials of the "Sugar Trust" were brought to trial at Washington on criminal charges of refusing to answer certain questions propounded by a Senate committee of investigation. The principal issue turned on the refusal to state what sums had been contributed by the corporation to party campaign committees at the times of elections. In each case the defendant was acquitted, chiefly as a result of the contention that the specific question at issue was not such as to fall within the scope of a Senate committee's inquiries. — In October President McKinley accepted the resignation of Associate-Justice Field, of the Supreme Court of the United States, to take effect December 1. Justice Field's term of service, thirty-four years and seven months, is the longest in the history of the court.

STATE ELECTIONS. — On November 2 elections occurred in fourteen states for various legislative, executive and judicial officers. Interest in the results centred chiefly on the evidence that might be presented as to the trend of party feeling on national issues. From this point of view the most important features of the returns were as follows: The Democrats made conspicuous gains in New York, Kentucky, New Jersey and Ohio, carrying the first two states by substantial majorities, but failing to overcome entirely the adverse majority in the latter two. The Republicans held their own in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Iowa and Maryland, securing in the last named a legislature that insured the election of a Republican United States senator to succeed Mr. Gorman. In Virginia, Colorado and Nebraska the voting gave results showing no material deviation from those of last year.

VARIOUS STATE LEGISLATION. — Constitutional changes have been acted upon as follows: New Jersey, September 28, ratified by popular vote, though by a very narrow majority, an amendment prohibiting lotteries, pool-selling, book-making or gambling of any kind; at the same time, an amendment opening the suffrage to women at school elections was defeated.

Tennessee voted down, August 5, a proposition for a convention to revise the constitution. Connecticut ratified, October 4, an amendment specifying that the ability to read the constitution or laws, which had long been a qualification for voting, should mean ability "to read in the English language." Maryland rejected, November 2, an amendment requiring competitive examinations for appointments in the civil service.—The perennial antithesis of **state legislature and national judiciary** has been expressed in the following instances: a Pennsylvania law imposing a tax of three cents a day on every alien employed as a laborer in the state was held unconstitutional, August 26, as denying the equal protection of the laws which is required by the Fourteenth Amendment. In South Carolina, early in June, the state dispensary authorities were enjoined by the circuit court from interfering with the sale of liquor in the unbroken "original packages" in which it came from other states. A large original-package liquor business was in consequence developed in opposition to the state dispensaries; but it appeared in September that the state authorities were making some headway against this by various forms of pressure through which the railroads were induced not to carry liquor for the original-package concerns. In Tennessee the law prohibiting the sale of cigarettes was declared unconstitutional, October 2, as in conflict with the power of Congress over interstate commerce. In Kansas a controversy developed in August between the state government and the national courts over the refusal of the former to permit a New York insurance company to do business in the state. The national court enjoined the state officials from interfering with the company; the officials brought the company on *quo warranto* proceedings before the state courts; and the matter now awaits decisive action by some higher authority. In Nebraska the national court, October 5, enjoined the state officers from enforcing a law regulating the business and rates of stock yards, on the ground that it took property without compensation.—Projects for the taxation of inheritances have failed in New York and Pennsylvania. In the former state the bill described in the last RECORD (p. 365), after passing both houses of the legislature, was on May 21 vetoed by the governor. In Pennsylvania a state court decided, June 4, that the recently imposed inheritance tax on personal property was in conflict with the state constitution.

LABOR CONFLICTS.—A widespread **strike of bituminous-coal miners** was inaugurated July 5 by order of the United Mine Workers of America. The object of the strike was an increase of wages; and the region affected included western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and to some extent West Virginia and Kentucky. A great diversity and complication of interests were involved in the strike, both workmen and employers being divided into jealous factions. The strike was practically terminated by an agreement reached early in September, which involved a concession of an increase of wages equal to seventy-five per cent of that demanded by the miners. After this settlement, however, the conflict was continued in vari-

ous regions, especially in Indiana and Illinois, where the terms of the agreement were not satisfactory. The progress of the strike during the summer brought anew into prominence the application of the much-denounced "government by injunction." As a means of preventing the working of mines by non-union men, in various places, notably western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, permanent camps of strikers were established on leased private property, and the roads by which the non-union men went to and from their work were regularly beset by bodies of strikers, seeking by persuasion and entreaty to induce the workers to join them. Organized masses of strikers also marched from place to place with the same purpose. Stringent orders were issued by the leaders of the strike to avoid everything in the nature of violence or breach of the peace, and these orders were very generally obeyed. Despite this policy, however, occasion was found for resort to injunctions. Under the influence of professional agitators, — Messrs. Sovereign, Debs and others, — who repaired to the region, the activity of the strikers assumed a threatening aspect, and the protection of the courts was invoked by the mining companies. Both state and federal judges granted injunctions. Though the terms of these orders did not warrant the picturesque assertion of Mr. Debs that he had been "enjoined off the earth," they could be and were so construed as to apply to many of the proceedings incidental to the methods of the strikers. The latter were excluded absolutely from the property of the mine-owners, were prohibited from "interfering with the employees of [the owners] in passing to and from their work, either by threats, menaces or intimidation," and from "unlawfully inciting persons who are engaged in working the mines to cease from working in the mines, or in any wise advising such acts as may result in violations and destruction of the rights of the plaintiff in this property." A Pennsylvania court's order specifically enjoined the strikers from "assembling, marching or encamping in proximity to said mines . . . for the purpose, by intimidation, menaces, threats and opprobrious words, of preventing" the working miners from continuing at work; and by virtue of this order the sheriff of the county concerned put an end to the marches of the strikers and prevented some of their meetings. A little later, August 15, the United States court in West Virginia issued a series of orders of similar content, which were followed by similar results. The strikers complained that their constitutional right to assemble and walk upon the public highways was infringed by these orders, but the higher courts, both state and national, sustained the lower in the view that systematic and exclusive occupation of the highways for the purpose of interfering with adjacent property owners was an abuse of the right. — On September 10 a fatal collision occurred at Hazleton, Penn., between a body of striking miners — not connected with the great strike described above — and the sheriff of the county and his deputies. The strikers, mostly Hungarians, had been marching about the region in a disorderly manner, intimidating other miners, when the sheriff and his force met them and sought to stop their further progress.

An attempt to arrest one of the marchers brought on a struggle, upon which the deputies opened fire with rifles and killed some twenty or more of the strikers. The remainder dispersed, and order was maintained afterward by a large force of militia which was hastily sent to the place.

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS. — The leading event in this field was the first election for officers of the "Greater New York," whose charter goes into effect with 1898. The campaign acquired a special character by the activity of an organization known as the Citizens' Union, which framed a platform looking to the separation of municipal from national and state politics, and to the exclusion of both Republican and Democratic "machines" from control of the city. The Union nominated Seth Low for mayor and gained the support of large numbers from both Republican and Democratic camps. Both regular party organizations entered the contest. The Republicans, led by Senator Platt, nominating General Tracy, and Tammany Hall, led by Mr. Croker, nominating Judge Van Wyck. A fourth leading candidate, in the person of Henry George, was named by a body of enthusiastic devotees of Mr. George's social and economic theories, and was supported by many anti-Tammany Democrats. The sudden death of Mr. George from apoplexy, October 22, in the midst of an energetic campaign, was a dramatic feature of the contest. The election took place November 2, and resulted in the triumph of Van Wyck by about 80,000 over Low, Tracy falling behind Low by about 50,000. In lesser cities recent elections showed more favorable results for independent candidates. Indianapolis, Atlanta and Rochester chose mayors without reference to the national parties. — In November Philadelphia formally abandoned its municipal gas works by leasing them for a long term to a private corporation.

LYNCH LAW. — The list of lynchings reported in the newspapers during the period under review is by far the longest for any equal period in many years. The total number that has come to the notice of the compiler is forty-three. Of these thirty-five were in the late slave states and eight in the rest of the Union. The victims included, in the slave states, twenty-nine negroes and six white men; in the other states, one black and seven whites. The offense charged was actual or attempted rape in twenty-four cases, — twenty blacks and four whites, — and other crimes in nineteen cases, — ten blacks and nine whites. Many features of the summer's record were very discouraging to the authorities and to that element of the people who are striving to abate the evil. Thus, at Princess Anne, in Maryland, a negro who had just been convicted of assault upon a white woman and sentenced to death was taken from the sheriff at the court house and hanged forthwith. At Williamsburg, Kentucky, a white man, under sentence of twenty years' imprisonment, was likewise taken from jail and hanged. The usual excuse, the law's delay, was wholly lacking in these cases. Farther south, in Georgia and Alabama, several newspapers have assumed an attitude of open approval and encouragement of lynching in cases of rape. A prominent woman speaker in Georgia made a public address to the same effect at

a fair at Savannah, August 11. In the Northern states two incidents excited especial attention. At Urbana, Ohio, June 3, a negro, after assaulting a white woman, was convicted and sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment the day following his arrest. On the next night a mob attacked the jail, but was fired on with fatal effect by a militia company which was on guard. Later the attack was renewed and the negro was taken and lynched. None of the lynchers was brought to justice, but the sheriff and many of the soldiers were obliged to leave the town on account of the indignation manifested by friends of those who were killed in the attack on the jail. At Versailles, Indiana, on September 15, a mob took from the jail and hung five men who were implicated in a series of robberies that had been perpetrated in the vicinity. Here, again, though the executive authorities displayed much activity, no punishment of the lynchers has been announced.

II. FOREIGN NATIONS.

EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. — The dominant topic in this field has been the adjustment incidental to the war between Greece and Turkey. The net result of negotiations covering the whole period under review has been the conclusion of a preliminary treaty of peace between the hostile powers. On May 11 Greece accepted the conditions on which the great powers had agreed to intervene for the termination of the war. The conditions were that Greece should consent to the autonomy of Crete, recall her troops from that island and follow implicitly the advice of the powers in the establishment of peace. The Porte at first refused the request of the powers for an armistice; and on May 17 the Turkish Army attacked and carried the position of the Greeks at Dhomoko, driving the defeated forces entirely out of Thessaly. On the following day, under strong pressure from the powers and on the request of the Czar in a personal message, the Sultan ordered a suspension of hostilities. Then began the long diplomatic conflict over the terms of peace. The Porte demanded the annexation of Thessaly, a war indemnity of £10,000,000 and the abolition of certain privileges enjoyed by Greek subjects in Turkey. All that the powers would agree to was a slight rectification of the Thessalian frontier in favor of Turkey and an indemnity of £4,000,000. By the familiar method of playing upon the mutual jealousies of the powers, the Porte postponed until the middle of July acceptance of their terms, and yielded then only after somewhat peremptory warnings of serious consequences that might follow a longer delay. Questions of detail as to the time and manner of evacuating Thessaly and as to the security for payment of the indemnity prolonged negotiations for two months longer. It was finally arranged that the administration of the Greek revenues assigned to the service of both the old national debt and a new indemnity loan should be entrusted to a committee of representatives of the great powers, and that the Turkish troops

should be withdrawn from Thessaly when the working of this arrangement should have been assured. On September 18 the preliminary treaty was signed by the Sultan. According to its provisions, Greek and Turkish plenipotentiaries shortly after began negotiations for the definitive treaty of peace. — **The Cretan question** has been left almost entirely in abeyance, on account of the attention demanded by the other phases of the general Eastern situation. In May the Greek force, whose occupation of the island had precipitated the crisis (see last RECORD), was withdrawn. Thereafter the blockade which the powers maintained was greatly relaxed. No steps were taken, however, toward the definitive establishment of the autonomous *régime* proposed by the powers, and as between Mohammedans and Christians the hostile *status quo* has remained practically unchanged. The Christians, with an organized assembly, control the interior of the island and agree to accept the proposed autonomy, but not until the Turkish garrisons are withdrawn from the coast towns. The Sultan declines to withdraw the garrisons, on the ground that they are necessary to protect the Mohammedans against the Christian insurgents. The naval forces of the great powers, occupying the chief towns, are kept busy restraining both parties from flying at each other. Early in October the Sultan solemnly urged upon the powers the necessity of settling matters, but revealed that his method of settling was wholly inconsistent with that already agreed upon by the powers. It was announced early in November that the powers had chosen a Colonel Schaeffer, of Luxemburg, as the Christian governor of autonomous Crete. — Of the customary summer visits by the heads of European states, those paid to the Russian Czar by the German Emperor and the President of the French Republic, respectively, attracted the greatest attention. The journey of President Faure to St. Petersburg in August had been arranged long before. That the German Emperor visited the Czar a few weeks in advance of the French President was the cause of much comment and of very ingenious calculations as to the relative enthusiasm which the two excited among the Russian courtiers and populace. President Faure's visit proved, however, the more sensational from the fact that it was made the occasion of an announcement of a **formal alliance between France and Russia**. On August 26, at a farewell luncheon on the French man-of-war which was to bear the President home, the Czar, in proposing a toast, used the words : "Our two nations, friends and allies"; and, to leave no doubt on the subject, the Russian sailors united with their cheers for France the new cry : "Vive l'alliance." Though the existence of an alliance was thus put beyond doubt, no information was made public as to its terms.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND. — The most striking and not the least important political incidents of the period centred about the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. June 22 was the sixtieth anniversary of the monarch's coronation, and already before that date her reign had exceeded in length that of any of her predecessors on the throne. This

double occasion was the basis of extended and elaborate demonstrations of loyalty and affection from her subjects all over the world. From a political point of view the salient feature of the festivities at London was the emphasis put upon the imperial idea and the attention paid to the representatives of the colonies and dependencies. In response to special invitations, the prime ministers of all the self-governing colonies came to take part in the celebration; and under the auspices of the colonial secretary, Mr. Chamberlain, there was held a series of **conferences of the colonial premiers** on matters of general interest. These conferences resulted in expressions of opinion by the premiers as follows: that any treaties which hamper the commercial relations between Great Britain and her colonies should be canceled, and that steps should be taken toward preference by the colonies to the products of the United Kingdom; that existing political relations between the colonies and the mother country were generally satisfactory; that federation of geographically united colonies is desirable, and that periodical conferences like the present for the whole empire ought to be held; that the existing naval arrangements for the protection of Australasia were satisfactory; that steps toward uniformity in organization and equipment of the military forces of colonies and mother country were desirable; and that the British restrictions upon the investment of trust funds in colonial stocks ought to be removed. Various other topics were also discussed, but in most cases any conclusion was rendered unimportant by the uncertain conditions of parliamentary majorities in the colonies. One prompt result of the conferences was the denunciation by the British government, July 30, of the commercial treaties with Germany and Belgium. These treaties secured to those nations—and hence to all others having most-favored-nation rights—the same tariff rates in British colonies that were given to Great Britain. Only by getting rid of the treaties, therefore, could Great Britain profit by the preferential duties hoped for from the colonies and already granted by Canada. Another incident in the *rapprochement* of colonies and mother country was the unconditional contribution by the Cape Colony of the cost of a first-class battleship to the imperial treasury.—**Parliament** remained in session till August 6. The government met with no important obstacles in carrying out its program of legislation. Its most important measures were that giving additional aid to board schools, passed by the Commons May 20, and the Compensation for Accidents Bill, passed by the Commons July 15. The latter act gives greatly increased facilities to workmen for enforcing against employers claims for compensation in case of accidents occurring in the line of duty, but does not prohibit employees from contracting out of its provisions. Incidentally to the discussion of Irish business, Mr. Balfour announced, May 21, that the government would introduce at the next session a project for the radical modification of local government in Ireland, with a view to the extension of popular control.—The representatives of **Ireland** in the two Nationalist factions signaled their irreconcilable atti-

tude by refusing to vote for the congratulatory address from the Commons to the Queen on the occasion of her jubilee. A very bad condition of the crops in western Ireland, and especially of potatoes, was made the basis of a petition by the members of the Irish parties for an immediate assembling of Parliament to take steps for relief against impending famine. The petition was denied. — The Parliamentary committee on investigation of the **Jameson raid** reported July 13. The report condemned the raid in severe terms, visited unqualified censure upon Mr. Cecil Rhodes for his connection with the affair, found two other directors of the South Africa Company guilty of complicity, but absolved the rest, and exonerated the officials of the colonial office from all knowledge or responsibility in connection with the raid. No steps were taken to punish anybody whom the committee held responsible. — A conflict between employers and employees in the engineering business, which began in July, had not terminated at the close of this RECORD. The chief point at issue was the eight-hour question, the employers, who to some extent had conceded the demand for the eight-hour day, having resolved that they could not adhere to this system. Strikes and lockouts resulted throughout the United Kingdom. Each side is thoroughly organized, and the duration of the struggle has been prolonged by the apparent determination of the employers to break once for all the power of the trade union. Incidentally to this conflict considerable progress has been made in the development of "The Free Labor Protective Association" — an organization of employers, including all kinds of business, for the purpose of effectively opposing the trade unions, especially in the use of such methods as "picketing."

THE BRITISH COLONIES AND INDIA — The Canadian Parliament remained in session till June 29. Its legislative work included the enactment of the new tariff, described in the last RECORD; an act giving to the Northwest Territories a government by legislature and responsible ministry; and an act to prevent the entrance of workmen from the United States under contract to labor in Canada. This last act was avowedly designed to retaliate upon the United States for the alleged harsh and unfair administration of its alien-contract-labor law at Detroit and Buffalo. The application of the Canadian law was left discretionary with the government, to see if more satisfactory procedure should follow its enactment; in July it was put in force. A number of other measures were brought forward aiming to curtail the privileges and enhance the burdens of United States citizens having interests in Canada, the cause of all being the provisions of the Dingley tariff that bore with great severity on Canadian commerce. The retaliatory bills were not favored by the ministry, but they had large support among the members. An abrupt and unexpected prorogation prevented some of the worst of them from becoming law. Owing to the treaties with Germany and Belgium which were denounced in July (*supra*, p. 746), the Canadian government was obliged to extend the preferential rates of its tariff to some fifteen countries besides Great Britain and her colonies. When, at the

end of a year, these treaties expire, the preference will be limited to British goods alone. — The convention at Adelaide completed on April 23 the draft of a scheme for **Australian federation**. The most animated contests in the convention turned on the organization and powers of the upper house — the “States Council” — of the proposed federal government. On these questions the division in the convention was on the line of small colonies against large. The draft as completed provided for the equal representation of the states in the council, but prescribed that money bills should originate in the lower house — where representation was according to population — and should be subject to rejection but not to amendment by the upper house. The convention’s draft was submitted to the various legislatures during the summer sessions and was by them subjected to many amendments. In September the convention assembled again at Sydney. Before its work was completed, however, it adjourned till January, in order that Queensland, which had hitherto been prevented by internal dissensions from sending delegates, might participate in the final discussions. The ultimate result of the convention’s work is to be submitted to popular vote in the various states. — The vigor of the British administration has been tested by a series of **disturbances in India**, some of which are supposed to have been inspired by the reports of the Turkish Sultan’s victory over the Christian Greeks. A restiveness among the Mohammedan population of the country, and an aggressive tone in their press, created some apprehension among the European residents. On June 30 Chitpur, a suburb of Calcutta, was the scene of rioting which lasted several days, and which originated in Mohammedan claims that a mosque had been violated. It was on the northwestern frontiers of India, however, that the most serious trouble arose. In June a series of uprisings began among the tribes of Mohammedans in the mountains between the British and the Afghan territory. The movement began with the preaching of a religious fanatic proclaiming a holy war. During the summer the insurrection spread until most of the passes, including the important Khyber, were in the hands of the tribesmen and Peshawur was threatened. Brisk fighting was required on the part of the British troops to make headway against the insurgents, and heavy losses were incurred ; but by the end of this *RECORD* the lost positions had been recovered and the tribes adequately punished, except in the neighborhood of the Khyber pass, where heavy fighting was in progress with the Afridis. The Ameer of Afghanistan, who was at first suspected of encouraging the insurgents, published at the end of September a vigorous denunciation of their acts and aims. The Hindoo as well as the Mohammedan subjects of the Queen contributed to the disturbances of the period. The particular occasion for their share was the proceedings of the administration in trying to stamp out the plague in Bombay and Poona. The measures employed for discovering and cleansing infected regions called forth bitter complaints from the lower classes of natives, and these were made the basis of attacks on the government by the Hindoo press. In connection with these attacks was expressed the wide-

spread hostility to British rule which pervades the educated classes of the Hindoos, especially those who have imbibed the radical spirit in politics. At the end of June two English officials were assassinated at Poona, and secretly circulated pamphlets of a highly seditious character were discovered. A month later the police arrested several wealthy and influential Hindoos on charges of inciting disaffection. Among the prisoners was Gangadhar Tilak, a member of the Bombay legislative council, who had shortly before published in a Poona paper an article which was alleged to embody incitements to sedition and assassination. The accused was later convicted. Other newspaper writers were expelled from the country. The government's strong measures seemed to be having a satisfactory effect, though the excitement rose very high. The plague has not entirely disappeared, but has become less manifest. As to the famine, the weather has indicated that it will be at an end when the season's crops are harvested. The number of persons on relief rose during the summer to above four million; and the Mansion-House fund amounted, when it was discontinued in September, to £550,000. The total cost of the famine was estimated by the secretary of state for India at about £10,000,000, of which the part borne by the Indian government brought its finances into a desperate condition.

FRANCE.—The internal politics of France has presented no features of striking significance. **The Chambers** were in session from May 18 to July 20, and assembled again for their autumn session on October 19. The most important legislation accomplished included a slight readjustment of the direct tax on land, the renewal for twenty-three years of the note-issuing franchise of the Bank of France, and a law authorizing the President to put in force by decree the duties embodied in a new tariff bill at the time the bill is introduced. An attempt of the opposition to commit the Chamber to the policy of an income tax was defeated by a small majority. The budget, presented on May 18, embodied no innovations. — **The Panama scandal** was temporarily revived by the appointment of a new committee of investigation by the Chamber of Deputies at the end of June. The committee expected to receive a full confession which was promised by Cornelius Herz, who had been intimately involved in the affair, and who was an invalid in England. The committee prepared to visit Herz in a body, but at the last moment he imposed such conditions on their coming that they abandoned their purpose and expressed their conviction that they had been trifled with. — **President Faure** has been twice the object of supposed Anarchistic attempts at assassination. On June 13, as he was driving to the races, a bomb was exploded close to his carriage; and on August 31, in the midst of his enthusiastic reception at Paris upon his return from Russia, a bomb was exploded on the route of the procession. In neither case was injury done to either the President or anybody else.

GERMANY.—The session of the **Reichstag**, which terminated June 25, produced but small legislative results. Practically the only two impor-

tant measures that were passed were dictated largely by the Agrarian Party. An Oleomargarine Bill, adopted in May, put severe restrictions upon the manufacture and sale of various substitutes for dairy products; and the Emigration Bill (see last RECORD), which was passed at the same time, was designed in part to keep down the cost of farm labor by decreasing emigration. A further purpose of this latter act was that of diverting the course of emigrants from North America to the South American countries, where German feelings and characteristics were less quickly and completely lost by absorption in the native populations. — In the middle of May the government formally declared that the methods of procedure adopted by brokers to evade the provisions of the new Bourse Law (see last RECORD) would not be recognized as effecting their purpose. Accordingly, the informal assemblies that took the place of the disbanded produce exchanges were subjected to government regulation, as required by the law. — A considerable **remodeling of the imperial cabinet** was effected during the summer, though personal rather than political motives seemed to have played the chief part in it. As minister of the interior, Doctor von Bötticher was succeeded by Count von Posadowsky-Wehner, who became also the general deputy of the chancellor; the vice-presidency of the Prussian ministry, which was also resigned by von Bötticher, was bestowed on Doctor von Miquel, the Prussian minister of finance. As minister of foreign affairs, Baron Marschall von Bieberstein was succeeded by Herr von Bülow. Admiral Tirpitz succeeded Hollmann as minister of marine; and changes were made at the head of the treasury and of the Post-Office. — A very hot conflict arose in the summer in the Prussian Landtag over a proposed modification of the **law of associations**. In accordance with a promise of the prime minister that the law should be changed, a bill was introduced by the government in May. The change expected was a repeal of the prohibition against the union of associations. Together with this, however, the government's draft embodied a number of new provisions, strengthening the control of the police over associations and meetings of a political character. The Radicals and Liberals, aided by the Clericals, stoutly opposed the measure and in the lower house of the Landtag stripped it of all the new reactionary features. The upper house restored them, and even accentuated the specific purpose of the bill by giving to the police in terms the power to "dissolve meetings in which Anarchist or Social-Democratic movements are manifest, aiming to overthrow the existing order of state or of society." In this form the bill was passed by 112 to 19. On the next day, July 23, the lower house rejected it by 205 to 209, and the session was then closed. The discussion of the bill excited much attention, and the Reichstag, before its adjournment, passed by 207 to 53 a bill for the empire embodying the provisions that were favored by the Liberals. This action had, however, no chance of approval by the Bundesrath, and availed merely as a vote of censure on the action of the Prussian ministry. Another result of the agitation was the formal resolution of the Social Democrats, in their party convention,

hereafter to contest seats for the Prussian Landtag, where they have never yet had a representative.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY. — The Austrian half of the dual monarchy has been throughout the period under review agitated by the **conflict between Germans and Czechs**, of which the first scenes were noticed in the last RECORD. The prime cause in this present renewal of an ancient feud was the disruption of the German Liberal Party by the anti-Semitic and Clerical movements, and the necessity thus put upon the government of getting the support of the Young Czechs to complete its majority in the Reichsrath. A "language-ordinance" was issued in April, putting the Czechish on a par with the German as the official language of Bohemia and Moravia. This concession was followed by violent demonstrations of hostility to the government by most of the German factions in the Reichsrath. By a course of systematic obstruction the opposition prevented the transaction of any business during May, and on June 2 the fruitless session was ended by imperial order. From the parliament the manifestations of race prejudice were then transferred to local assemblies, both official and popular. Many large meetings of Germans were held in Bohemia to protest against the government's policy; and these gave rise to interference by the police and to street conflicts with the Czechish populace. At the same time the local authorities in the German districts refused to carry out the language-ordinance, and contrived various methods of obstructing the administration. The whole summer was filled with incidents of the agitation. In August Prime Minister Badeni sought to bring about a compromise between the excited nationalities, on the general lines of that adopted in 1890 but never enforced. The German leaders, however, refused to negotiate till the offensive language-ordinance should be revoked. Meanwhile the conflict in Bohemia and the concessions to the Czechs had aroused the other nationalities of the empire, and the old demands of the Croats, Slovenes, Ruthenians and radical Poles were renewed in various forms. A special stimulus to these was given by certain tentative propositions by Count Badeni looking to federalism in the empire. Upon the reassembling of the Reichsrath, September 23, the sessions were attended by even more violent scenes than those in the spring. Certain leaders of the German popular party devoted themselves to virulent and disorderly attacks on the other nationalities and on the government. Premier Badeni took personal offense at one of the Germans named Wolff, and a duel was fought, in which the prime minister received a slight wound. The duel seemed to act as a general safety valve for excited emotions, and for a time a relative calm came over the parliament's proceedings, though the policy of obstruction was none the less resolutely adhered to by the Germans. A proposition of Count Badeni to introduce some form of closure failed to find favor with the government parties, especially the Czechs, who had themselves often found obstruction useful. In the middle of October the opposition brought forward again a series of propositions to impeach the prime minister and several of his col-

leagues. On the 26th the president of the Reichsrath, Doctor Kathrein, resigned, worn out with futile efforts to maintain order in the house. Up to the close of the RECORD no legislative business had been accomplished. — In **Hungary**, also, parliamentary obstruction played a large part in politics during the summer. For two months a government bill extending jury trial to all kinds of crimes was held in suspense by the minority because it excepted certain minor press offenses from its provisions. The deadlock was terminated about the first of August by mutual concessions, and the ministry's program was completed. The efficient impulse to a settlement seems to have been the general desire to strengthen the ministry's hands in the negotiations with Austria for the renewal of the Compromise of 1867. By the attitude of the opposition in the Reichsrath and the uncertainty of Count Badeni's position, the progress toward an agreement had been stopped, but the Hungarians were keenly alive to their interests and were eager to hold their own when the time came. At the resumption of its activity in October the lower house of the Diet passed a bill prolonging for a year the old Compromise. In the preliminary negotiations between the two governments as to the quotas of contribution to the imperial expenses, — the crucial point in the Compromise, — the nearest approach to an agreement was reported to have been an offer by Hungary of 34.6 per cent and a demand by Austria that it should be 36 per cent.

RUSSIA. — The most important governmental acts that have come to public notice have been: (1) the institution of extensive reforms in the administration of justice throughout Siberia, designed apparently both to meet new needs that are expected to arise upon the completion of the great railway and to strengthen the central control over local affairs; and (2) the adoption of a law, August 8, extending the government monopoly of alcohol to all parts of Russia in which it was not already in force. — There were some indications in the press during the summer of better relations between the imperial government and the Poles. The Czar paid a visit to Warsaw early in September, and it was reported afterward that a plot to assassinate him while he was in the city had been discovered and thwarted.

ITALY. — Political life has been devoid of striking incidents. In the session of parliament, which lasted till July 15, the di Rudini ministry had plain sailing. The adoption of the budget and an army-reorganization bill constituted the chief work. The ministry announced as to Africa an explicit purpose to relinquish all the Red Sea territory except Massowah and a very small region around it, and to retain that much only because of the complications that might arise among other European powers if it were abandoned. The probability of any modification of this policy seems remote, owing to the fact that Crispi, its chief antagonist, has been seriously compromised by the results of judicial investigation of the bank scandals.

SPAIN AND CUBA. — The apparently favorable position attained by the government in its colonial affairs at the opening of this RECORD was soon followed by an unfavorable development in *internal politics*. On May

24 the Sagasta Liberals and the Conservative adversaries of Prime Minister Canovas formally withdrew from the Cortes, signifying thus the termination of the agreement under which they had patriotically abstained from opposing the government during the difficulties in Cuba and the Philippines. The immediate occasion for the withdrawal was found in a personal altercation, attended by blows, between the Duke of Tetuan, minister of foreign affairs, and a prominent Liberal senator. On June 2 the Cortes was prorogued and the Canovas ministry at once tendered its resignation. After a few days of negotiations, however, the Queen Regent refused to accept it, and the ministers resumed their functions. The Liberals, led by Sagasta, demanded a change of policy in reference to Cuba, involving the recall of General Weyler and the concession of a more extensive autonomy than that hitherto offered. Canovas, on the other hand, maintained his confidence in the personality of Weyler and in the concessions already made. On August 8 the prime minister was assassinated by an anarchist named Golli at Guesalibar, a health resort in the north of Spain. No change of cabinet followed, the minister of war, General Azcarraga, assuming at first provisionally and then definitively the position of premier. The hope of continuing in power depended on the possibility of winning dissident Conservatives to the support of the ministry's Cuban policy. This hope failed, and on September 29 the Azcarraga cabinet resigned. Sagasta was then called upon, and on October 4 he announced a cabinet composed chiefly of his Liberal followers, with Moret as minister for the colonies and Gullon at the head of foreign affairs. — The murderer of Canovas was executed August 20. At Barcelona the Anarchists manifested their continued existence by an unsuccessful attempt to murder two police officials of the city September 4. — **The situation in Cuba** did not retain during the summer the favorable aspect in which the Spaniards rejoiced at the end of the last RECORD. The withdrawal of Liberal support in Spain made Premier Canovas especially anxious to show results that would vindicate his Cuban policy; and, apparently under the stimulus of urgings from Madrid, General Weyler, in the latter part of June, entered upon a campaign in large force against the insurgents in the eastern end of the island. The most conspicuous result of the movement was a sudden and effective revival of insurgent activity in the central and western provinces, from which Spanish troops had been drawn for the movement in the East. The guerilla tactics of the Cubans kept all the towns, even Havana itself, in a state of apprehension. During July the Spanish authorities sought to treat with the insurgent leaders through an offer of amnesty and home rule. The advances, however, were rejected. Early in September the insurgents in Santiago de Cuba gained a sensational victory in the capture of Victoria de las Tunas, a Spanish fortified place, with its garrison. This event caused renewed attacks in Spain on General Weyler and his policy and seems to have contributed much to the fall of the Azcarraga cabinet. The Sagasta ministry, promptly upon taking office, announced a change of policy toward Cuba, and replaced Weyler as captain-general

by Ramon Blanco. The new policy was said to involve the concession of a much fuller autonomy to Cuba than that offered by Canovas; but the details of the scheme have not been announced. Governor-General Blanco assumed authority October 30, and promptly modified some of the more oppressive features of Weyler's policy in the treatment of the Cubans. For example, the orders under which the country people in many districts were obliged to leave their homes and live in the towns were partially revoked. — In the Philippines the situation appears less favorable to Spain than it was at the close of the last RECORD. The Spaniards have failed to press the advantages they had then obtained, and the insurgents have had time to renew their strength.

MINOR EUROPEAN STATES. — The legislatures of **Norway** and **Sweden** succeeded in the summer in adopting a provisional commercial arrangement to take the place of the *zollverein* that terminated in July. The protectionist party is strong in Sweden; and, in addition to their desire on general principles for a high tariff, they have a disposition to employ their industrial advantage to bring pressure on Norway in the question of union. The joint commission on union has held another session, but without reaching a conclusion. The elections for the Norwegian Storting were in progress during the latter part of the summer, and by the middle of October had reached a stage that insured a great triumph for the Radicals. As a consequence, the Hagerup coalition ministry prepared to give way to Steen and his separatist followers. — The crisis in **Denmark** mentioned in the last RECORD was adjusted by a reorganization of the ministry in May and the modification of the government's budget. — The federal legislature in **Switzerland** adopted during the summer the project for the purchase and operation by the government of the five chief railway systems of the country. — On the Danube the little states have passed the summer and autumn in general political calm. Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria attracted attention in August by ostentatious demonstrations of affection and loyalty toward the Sultan. The prince visited Constantinople and while there conformed to all the ceremonial requirements that characterize the intercourse of subject with suzerain. The contrast between this effusive acceptance of a vassal condition and the prince's well-known aspirations to the royal dignity excited much comment and a variety of conjectural explanations. In Serbia elections for the Skupshtina were held in July and resulted in almost a clean sweep for the Radical Party. Little effect was produced, however, on the government, which continued to act on the autocratic lines laid down by King Alexander at the last revolution. Steps toward the formulation of the new constitution long since promised by the king have been announced from time to time, but no definite result has appeared. The fall of the Simitch ministry in October was officially ascribed to a difference with the king as to the policy desirable on this point. — A cabinet crisis in **Greece** was precipitated by the presentation of the preliminaries of peace with Turkey to the legislature. Taking

advantage of the deep discontent with the assumption of control over the finances by the great powers, M. Delyannis carried a vote of no confidence September 30, and the Ralli ministry resigned. The threatening attitude of both Turkey and the Christian powers, however, caused the hasty formation of a ministry headed by M. Zaimis, from which Delyannis was excluded.

AFRICA. — **The advance on Khartoum** by the Anglo-Egyptian Army has been successfully continued. Abu-Hamed was captured August 7; and a month later the very important town of Berber, much more than half way from Dongola to Khartoum, and in easy communication with Suakin on the Red Sea, was occupied. A railroad from Wady Halfa to Abu-Hamed, across the great bend of the Nile in which occur the second, third and fourth cataracts, was constructed during the summer, and provided great facilities for the security of the advancing force. — The situation in **the Transvaal** has lost the apparently critical character it bore at the end of the last RECORD. As a result of the energetic remonstrances of the British government, the Volksraad, upon the recommendation of President Krüger, repealed in May the Alien Immigration Act, which had constituted the most serious cause of tension. Further, the jubilee of Queen Victoria was recognized by making June 22 a holiday in her honor; and later a special commission on the industrial conditions of the republic reported in favor of reducing railway rates and modifying labor laws so as to benefit materially the mining interests. At the same time the negotiations for a defensive alliance, and also for a kind of federal union, between the Transvaal and the Orange River Free State were carried to a successful conclusion. — From **Abyssinia** the British and French missions returned with claims of having achieved their respective purposes, though official information is lacking. The question of territory in the equatorial region seems to have been conspicuous in the negotiations and to have been discussed with special reference to the purpose and progress of the Anglo-Egyptian advance up the Nile. The Negus Menelik in July appointed Count Leontieff, a Russian, governor of his equatorial provinces. Leontieff had recently conducted a Russian mission to Abyssinia, and had given grounds for a report that Russo-French influences were antagonizing those of Great Britain and Italy at the Abyssinian court. It was announced in September that Italy, after difficult negotiations, had reached an agreement with Menelik, under which the boundaries of the Italian colony were less favorable than Italy had claimed, but satisfactory terms as to commercial and diplomatic relations had been secured. — From **the Congo Free State** news came in the spring of a reverse to the force of Baron Dhanis, which has been for some time operating in the northeast in the neighborhood of the upper Nile. A rebellion of native troops broke up the campaign; but the commander, escaping to the posts on the Congo, collected reënforcements and returned to his task. The rebels were decisively defeated in July.

THE ORIENT. — By a treaty, the ratifications of which were exchanged in June, China made to Great Britain some valuable concessions on the Burmah frontier, including the transfer of certain small parcels of territory and the grant of valuable commercial privileges. The importance of the treaty consists chiefly in the advantage secured by the British in their rivalry with the French for the controlling influence in that region. — It was announced in the middle of October that the King of Corea had assumed the title of Emperor. The change seems to have been connected with the more independent position acquired by the kingdom as a result of the recent Chino-Japanese War. — The relations between Japan and Hawaii have been somewhat strained throughout the period under review. The cause was the action of the Hawaiian government some time since in refusing admission of Japanese immigrants and summarily shipping a number of them back to Japan. This action was held by the Japanese government to be in violation of a treaty; it was unquestionably a reversal of a long-standing policy of Hawaii, which had freely admitted Japanese to fill the demand for laborers on the sugar plantations. An animated diplomatic controversy between the two governments was tending at last accounts toward a settlement by arbitration.

LATIN AMERICA. — Insurrections in **Brazil and Uruguay** continued throughout the summer to disturb those countries. Canudos, the stronghold of the Brazilian insurgents, was said to have been captured in July by the government's forces, but it was not till October that the leader of the rebels was slain and the final suppression of the uprising was effected. In Uruguay the civil war continued until the assassination of President Borda at Montevideo, August 25. As the main source of discontent had been the personal character and policy of Borda, his death was soon followed by an adjustment between government and insurgents, and peace was restored in September. — In **Chili** the difficulties between President Errazuriz and the Congressional majority continued till the end of the summer and produced a succession of cabinet changes, with no permanent effect. — **The Greater Republic of Central America** was strengthened June 15 by the conclusion of a treaty by which Guatemala and Costa Rica adhered to the arrangement already in force among the other three states (see last RECORD). In Guatemala President Barrios in June dissolved the legislature and assumed dictatorial powers. In the middle of September an insurrection against his authority broke out, and for a time the insurgents carried all before them. By the middle of October, however, Barrios had succeeded in turning the tables and in retaking the chief positions which the rebels had seized. — A movement for the adoption of the gold standard by Latin-American states has been caused by the decline in the price of silver. Thus far more or less definite action in the matter has been reported from Peru, Hayti and Costa Rica.

WM. A. DUNNING.